RHP 9, 10, & 18 present
Collaborative Connections—Impacting Care
A Learning Collaborative Summit
Tuesday, May 22, 2018, 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. &
Wednesday, May 23, 2018, 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Hurst Conference Center, 1601 Campus Drive, Hurst, TX 76054

SPEAKERS BIOS

Charles Smith
Executive Commissioner
Texas Health & Human Services

Gov. Greg Abbott appointed Charles Smith to be Texas’ Health and Human Services Executive Commissioner, a job he started June 1, 2016. As Executive Commissioner, Smith oversees a system with nearly 56,000 employees that serve more than 7.5 million Texans every year in more than 600 programs ranging from Medicaid to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. A proud graduate of Texas Tech University, Commissioner Smith began his career as a volunteer in the Attorney General’s Child Support Division in 1988. He rose to serve as the division's director as it became the top rated child support program in the nation.

Barbara Eyman
Principal
Eyman Associates
Health Law & Policy

Barbara Eyman is the founder and Principal of Eyman Associates, a unique law firm operating at the intersection of health law and policy to help clients navigate and succeed in a rapidly transforming health care system. Since 1991, Barbara has assisted providers, trade associations, academic medical centers, health plans, states, and other health related organizations achieve their strategic goals through effective participation in a range of federal and state health care programs, including Medicaid, Medicare, the Children’s Health Insurance Program, Health Benefits Exchanges, 340B drug discount program and 330 health center program. She has a long and successful track record in developing Medicaid initiatives to support the work of safety net providers, including disproportionate share hospital (DSH) and other supplemental payment programs, graduate medical education (GME) payments, waiver-based coverage and payment programs, including Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment programs (DSRIPs), and alternative payment systems. Barbara has served as counsel to America’s Essential Hospitals since 1991, advocating on behalf of essential hospitals before Congress and federal agencies, and developing legislation, regulations and other policy proposals and positions to help achieve the association’s advocacy goals.

Lisa Kirsch, MPAFF
Senior Policy Director
Dell Medical School | The University of Texas at Austin

Lisa Kirsch is the Senior Policy Director at the Dell Medical School at the University of Texas at Austin. She conducts health policy research and analysis to support innovations in health care delivery and payment. Prior to joining Dell Med, Lisa worked for over 13 years at the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) on Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Program policy issues. Most recently, she served as the Chief Deputy Medicaid/CHIP Director, where she oversaw the policy department and the development and implementation of the over $10 billion Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) program under Texas’ 1115 healthcare transformation waiver. Prior to joining HHSC, Lisa worked for a Texas home health and community care services provider and the Arizona Joint Legislative Budget Committee. Lisa is a graduate of The University of Arizona (BA) and the LBJ School of Public Affairs at UT Austin (MPAff).
John Scott  
**Interim Director Healthcare Transformation Waiver**  
**Texas Health & Human Services Commission**

John Scott is Interim Director of the Texas Healthcare Transformation Waiver at the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC). He holds a master’s degree from the LBJ School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin. Prior to joining HHSC in 2013, he worked in various capacities at the Department of State Health Services (formerly the Texas Department of Health) for 18 years, including 7 years working closely with agency executives on strategic planning and implementation of high-priority projects.

David Garcia  
**Operational Excellence Project Manager**  
**Parkland Health & Hospital System**

David supports 1115 Waiver projects as well as process improvements on different areas. David has an Industrial Engineering and Systems degree that he obtained at University of Texas at El Paso. His previous professional experience includes industrial engineering for the Army Air Force Exchange Service. Also, he performed different roles such as manufacturing engineer, facilities engineer and Green Belt Leader while working for Cardinal Health. David is experienced with Lean Six Sigma and Green Belt, ASQ Six Sigma Black Belt, Toyota Production System, Supply Chain (Retail and Medical Supply), Industrial Engineer, and Project Management.

Sarah Fontenot, BSN, JD, CSP

A trained nurse and practicing attorney, Sarah Fontenot is specializes in explaining changes in U.S. healthcare, and helping providers understand the implications of those changes. For the past ten years she has taught extensively for the American College of Healthcare Executives, as faculty for the Board of Governor’s Review course, and as the instructor of ACHE’s online course “A Review of Health Law.” Sarah has over 20 years of experience teaching Health Law at Trinity University. She provides expert presentations for the American Association for Physician Leadership [AAPL] and other national provider organizations. Her twice-monthly newsletter “Fontenotes” provides concise, insightful, timely information about policies and trends in healthcare system, reaching approximately 20,000 readers. Sarah is a proud member of the Board of Directors at Peterson Health in Kerrville, Texas. [http://sarahfontenot.com/](http://sarahfontenot.com/)

Nora Belcher  
**Executive Director**  
**Texas e-Health Alliance**

Nora Belcher is the Executive Director of the Texas e-Health Alliance, a non-profit advocacy group that she started in 2009 to give health information technology stakeholders a voice in public policy. The Texas e-Health Alliance serves as the state’s leading advocate, from local communities to the national level, for the use of information technology to improve the health care system for patients. Prior to starting the Alliance, Ms. Belcher worked in the private sector as a consultant advising health information technology companies on how to do business with government. She also served in Governor Perry’s office for five years as deputy director in the Governor’s Office of Budget, Planning and Policy, where she was responsible for managing the policy and budget issues for the Texas health and human services system. Ms. Belcher holds a bachelor’s degree in government from the University of Texas at Austin and owns a hardcover first edition of Game of Thrones.
Luigi Meneghini, MD, MBA
Executive Director Parkland Health & Hospital System Global Diabetes Program
UT Southwestern Medical Center

Luigi Meneghini, MD, MBA is Professor of Internal Medicine at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Division of Endocrinology, in Dallas, Texas, and Executive Director of the Parkland Health and Hospital System’s Global Diabetes Program, where he is charged with implementing a system-wide program to organize, integrate and optimize diabetes management among primary, specialty and acute care settings, leveraging IT and population health expertise, community resources and human capital to reduce chronic disease burden. Dr. Meneghini was born in Italy, raised in Liberia and naturalized in the US.

Jennifer Rabaglia, MD
Associate Chief Medical Officer & SVP Quality & Patient Safety
Parkland Health & Hospital System

Jennifer Rabaglia, M.D., is the Chief Quality and Safety Officer, Associate Chief Medical Officer and Senior Vice President of Quality and Safety for Parkland Health and Hospital System in Dallas, TX, one of the largest, highest volume public safety net hospitals in the United States. She is also a practicing Endocrine Surgeon and serves as teaching faculty in the UT Southwestern Medical Center Department of Surgery. Prior to joining Parkland, she spent 7 years on faculty at the University of Texas Southwestern (UTSW), where she specialized in Thyroid, Parathyroid and Adrenal surgery. She served as the UTSW Surgical Quality officer, and championed a number of interdisciplinary quality improvement initiatives. She also completed a Master’s in Clinical Science through the UTSW Clinical Scholars Program. Dr. Rabaglia graduated with honors from the University of Notre Dame. She obtained her MD from the University of Colorado and was elected to the exclusive National Medical Honor Society, Alpha Omega Alpha. She completed 7 years of general surgical training and one year of subspecialty training at Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Harvard Medical School in Boston before coming to Texas.

Jennifer Hughes, PhD, MPH
Head of Risk and Resilience Network
UT Southwestern Center for Depression Research and Clinical Care

Jennifer Hughes, PhD, MPH, is the Head of the Risk and Resilience Network of the UT Southwestern Center for Depression Research and Clinical Care, under the leadership of M. Trivedi, MD. Dr. Hughes studies the extent to which psychosocial treatments help adolescents build resilience in the face of overwhelming stress or illness. She has published scholarly works in the areas of predictors and outcomes of psychiatric hospitalization and the efficacy of cognitive behavioral therapies in youth at risk. Dr. Hughes has contributed to several books and manuals in the areas of mood disorders and suicide from the perspective of families and teens.

Hope Morgan
Interim Director of Office of eHealth Coordination
Texas Health & Human Services Commission

Ms. Morgan currently serves as the Interim Director of the Office of eHealth Coordination and the Director of Health IT and Interoperability at the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), where she is responsible for coordinating the exchange of clinical information between HHSC and its trading partners. Prior to her current position at HHSC, Morgan directed the delivery of key infrastructure, desktop, and telecommunications services to over 25,000 end users, and worked on the evaluation of the impact of federal health care reform legislation on health information technology in Texas. Past positions include serving as Director of Information Technology Services and Information Resources Manager at the Railroad Commission of Texas and HHSC. She received her B.A. in Economics and African American Studies from Smith College.
Steve Eichner
Health Information Technology Policy Director
Department of State Health Services

Steve Eichner is currently the Health Information Technology Policy Director at the Department of State Health Services (DSHS). He works with agency programs, the Health and Human Services Commission, health care providers, local health departments, and other stakeholders to improve access to information resources maintained by DSHS and advance the interoperability of information systems and health information exchange. He is a subject matter expert in public health policy and reporting, the meaningful use of electronic health records, information standards development, and public health informatics.

George R. Gooch
Chief Executive Officer
Texas Health Services Authority (THSA)

George Gooch is the Chief Executive Officer of the Texas Health Services Authority (THSA), a quasi-governmental state agency responsible for the secure exchange of electronic health information in the State of Texas. Prior to becoming CEO, George served as the THSA's director of policy & planning. George is a healthcare compliance attorney who got his start in public policy as a policy analyst for the Texas Senate Committee on Health & Human Services. George holds a legal masters in health law from the University of Houston Law Center, and holds multiple certifications in information and healthcare privacy compliance.

Leah Creamer, RNC, WHNP
Director, Health Centers for Women
JPS Health Network

Leah Creamer has been active in nursing for 31 years. She has practiced as a Women’s Health Nurse Practitioner for 23 years. She is currently Director of three OB/GYN offices within the JPS Health Network. Leah was involved in developing and implementing a team health care delivery concept in the OB/GYN Ambulatory Department at JPS. Leah holds a Bachelor’s of Science in Nursing from Baylor University and Women’s Health Care Nurse Practitioner Certificate from University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center.

Betsy Kennard, PsyD
Director of Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (CBT) at Pediatric Psychiatry Research Program
UT Southwestern Medical Center

Betsy Kennard, PsyD received the Outstanding Contribution to Science award from the Texas Psychological Association in 2016. Her scholarly publications focus on the methods and outcomes associated with Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy for adolescent ages. As Director of Psychological Services at UT Southwestern in the Department of Psychiatry, Dr. Kennard sees adolescents with serious depression at risk for self-harm. She has contributed to the development of several treatment manuals and served on research teams investigating medical and psychological interventions for youth with a variety of psychological disorders. She is a Fellow in the Association of Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies.